Views expressed by CJI against bringing judiciary under Lokpal

4578. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Justice of India, expressed his opinion stating that he is against bringing judiciary under Lokpal;

(b) if so, the details of the opinion expressed by the Chief Justice of Supreme Court;

(c) whether any time-frame has been fixed to bring Lokpal before Parliament; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Enhancement of upper age limit for recruitment by UPSC

4579. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the UPSC fixed the eligibility age as 18-27 for certain posts such as Section Officer (Audit) for which graduation is prescribed as an essential qualifications;

(b) if so, whether any university in the country is awarding graduation at the age of 18 years;

(c) if not, so, why the UPSC fixed an unrealistic age limit for those posts;

(d) whether Government would consider to enhance the upper age limit to 29 years as against the existing age limit of 27 and revise the eligibility age for such posts as 20-29; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a) to (c) Recruitment of Section Officer (Audit) is entrusted to Staff Selection Commission (SSC) [and not Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)]. For this, the Comptroller and Auditor General (C&AG) has prescribed Graduation as the minimum educational qualifiication and, the minimum and the maximum age for candidates as 18 and 27 years respectively.

(d) and (e) No such proposal in respect of such posts is under consideration.

Re-orientation of Indian Bureaucracy

4580. SHRI SAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what steps are being taken for the re-orientation of Indian bureaucracy especially the IAS and IPS officers;

,(b) whether there have been many reports of higher officers not showing a secular and unbiased outlook on many occasions especially during communal riots; and

(c) what steps are being taken to give more secular outlook to the central services officers and to make the more sensitive towards various social and religious groups?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRI SURESH PACHOURI): (a)Orientation and re-orientation of civil servants is a continuous process achieved through intensive induction training and supplemented by periodic mid-career trainings. A set of conduct rules is also in place to guide their actions as civil servants.

(b) No case of this nature has been referred to the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions so far.

(c) During their training at the Lal Bahadur Shastri National Academy of Administration and Sardar Vallabhabhai Patel National Police Academy IAS and IPS officers are enabled to develop a secular outlook and sensitivity as regards disadvantaged social groups. The Conduct Rules